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Shuster Announces Critical Fire Grant for the Listie Volunteer Fire Company in Somerset

Washington, D.C. – **Congressman Bill Shuster** is pleased to announce that the Listie Volunteer Fire Company of Somerset has been awarded a grant through the Department of Homeland Security's Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program.

The fire company was awarded \$74,950 which will be used for the purchase of a variety of operational and safety equipment, including a new air compressor, a cascade system, new helmets and boots as well as a crash recovery system.

"This is fantastic news for the volunteers at Listie V.FC.," Shuster said. "These grants will allow local rural fire companies like Listie to purchase equipment they couldn't afford through fundraising alone. Their new equipment will save lives and property. I congratulate everyone involved in this successful grant application."

"The LVFC is grateful to FEMA and the AFGP for its continued assistance in obtaining equipment necessary for volunteer fire companies to do their jobs," said Janeen Lanham, grant writer for the fire company. "The LVFC is most pleased to be receiving a Crash Recovery System. This piece of equipment will help to insure firefighter safety when responding to vehicle accidents."

Congressman Shuster would also like to remind local fire firefighters that the application period for interested fire companies to take part in the FY 2010 AFG Program is now open. The application period will close on Friday, May 28, 2010, at 5:00 p.m. EDT. The AFG Program guidance and application materials are currently available for review at www.firegrantsupport.com.

Congressman Shuster encourages fire departments across the 9th district to take advantage of the application period to apply for funding to help finance new equipment and training.

The AFG Program provides financial assistance directly to fire departments and nonaffiliated emergency medical service (EMS) organizations to enhance their capabilities with respect to fire and fire-related hazards. The primary goal of the program is to help fire departments and nonaffiliated EMS organizations meet their firefighting and emergency response needs. The AFG Program seeks to support organizations that lack the tools and resources necessary to more effectively protect the life and safety of the public and their emergency response personnel with respect to fire and all other hazards.

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